

RUSHVILLE CITY UTILITIES
330 N. Main St., Suite 200
Rushville, IN 46173

Minutes of the Utility Board Meeting, June 18, 2020
The Utility Board met at the City Center Council Chambers

Brian Bess called the meeting to order in Michael Singleton and Phil Starkey's absence at the start of the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Brian Bess
Dale Gardner
Phillip King
Phillip Starkey
Michael Singleton

Others present:

Michael Pavey	Mayor
Les Day	Superintendent
Gina Jenkins	Office Manager
Geoffrey Wesling	City Attorney
Tracy Newhouse	City Attorney
Aaron Gurley	City Councilman

Phil King motioned to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2020 meeting. Dale Gardner seconded the motion. The motion carried. Due to the Covid 19 virus, there were no meetings in March, April or May 2020.

There was no Superintendent's report.

Gina Jenkins told everyone that everything went well during the shutdown of the City Center to the public. Most customers still made their payments. There were no shut-offs for non-payment in March, April or May. Now that the City Center is re-opened, City Utilities will do shut-offs on schedule for the month of June.

Gina gave all the board members a report of all the old billing accounts that need to be deleted from the system. She asked the members to look over the report and let her know at the July meeting if they approve of the accounts being deleted.

She then reported that City Utilities received a check for \$4,710.54 for Spring sewer liens that were paid.

Aaron Gurley, City Councilman, was present at the meeting to discuss his concern of the rusty water throughout the city. He has had many people approach him to complain and he has also seen a lot of people complaining on Facebook. He told the concerned residents to stop using Facebook and e-mail their complaints to him. Aaron said that he has received 10 e-mails so far. He would like to know what is being done to correct the problem. Les Day told Aaron that he has been working with Water Solutions Co. They have suggested that a Sodium chemical be added to the water system to bring the Manganese level down. The high level of Manganese is the cause of the rusty water. Les said that the cost would be approximately \$4,000.00 per year to treat the water.

Les told everyone that the 8th Street water main replacement has been completed.

Then Les said that there is still a serviceman opening at City Utilities. He would like to hire summer help and keep that person for six months to possibly make it a fulltime position.

Les then discussed employee evaluations. He would like to give a raise to the two water operators to keep them from looking for other jobs because there has been so much turn over at City Utilities. Gina said that if they were going to give raises to other employees, then her office staff should be evaluated for raises. The ladies in the office have taken on dealing with the trash fees and all the rusty water complaints.

Phil Starkey said that the board members should form a committee to do the evaluations for raises. Phil said that he would volunteer to be on the committee. Brian Bess and Dale Gardner also said that they would be on the committee. Phil said that they would set up a time to meet with Gina and Les to discuss the matter.

Les told everyone that City Utilities currently does not have a generator to back up operations during power outages. Phil King told Les that the generator should have a transfer switch. Les will get quotes for a new generator.

Campaign Quarters has requested a refund for their water usage. When the apartment building was being renovated, the contractor had two 2" meters installed to run into a 4" line. Campaign Quarters' management company has requested that one of the meters be taken out and a refund for the usage on the second meter. Les told everyone that it was not the decision of City Utilities to put two meters in, so he feels that no refund should be given. He also said that with one meter being removed, Campaign Quarters will be saving approximately \$500.00 per month. Butch Singleton motioned to deny the refund. Phil King seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Phil King checked claims for the month. Phil motioned to approve the claims. Butch Singleton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

During the Mayor's report, Mayor Pavey discussed hiring HWC. This is a consulting firm that would come and audit and review the Water and Wastewater plants. They would also do testing to ensure that there are no problem areas. Butch Singleton motioned to approve a contract with HWC. Phil King seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There were issues not known in advance. Les discussed that he had been contacted by the owner of Rushview Mobile Home Park. Currently there is one 2" meter supplying water to the park. He would like to have individual meters installed to each lot and have the tenants pay their own water bill.

They would have to pay for installations and City Utilities would pay for and supply the meters. The board members asked Les to get pricing for the meters. The discussion was tabled until he can give the board a total cost for the meters.

Les then told everyone that he and Eric Schlechtweg had completed and passed their management classes, and they have started business classes.

There was a high level of e coli last week at the Wastewater plant. Les said that the sleeves of the UV System have been cleaned and the levels are back to normal.

There was an issue on 1st Street. The sink hole was televised and there was a lot of debris inside. He learned that when INDOT did the State road 44 project they had collapsed the main. Les is asking INDOT to pay for the damages.

Butch Singleton motioned to adjourn. Dale Gardner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 5 p.m. at the City Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.